

VIRGINIA: At a Regular Meeting of the Bland County Board of Supervisors held at the Bland County Courthouse located in Bland, Virginia, on the twenty-fifth day of September, 2007, 5:00 p.m., the following duly elected and qualified members were present or absent.

PRESENT: Karen H. Hodock, John C. Thompson, Jason R. Ramsey, Henry Blessing

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Jonathan D. Sweet, County Administrator; Carol Hall, Deputy Administrator;
Frank Slavin, County Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Karen Hodock called the September 25, 2007, regular meeting to order.

INVOCATION

The invocation was offered by Supervisor Mr. Blessing.

PLEDGE TO FLAG

Chairman Mrs. Hodock led the pledge alliance to the flag.

SEPTEMBER 25, 2007 MEETING AGENDA APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve the September 25, 2007 meeting agenda as amended was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by John Thompson.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve the consent agenda to include the minutes of August 28, 2007; payroll of August 31, 2007 and September 17, 2007 totaling \$151,776.72; September 2007 bills in the amount of \$201,436.57; and reports as presented was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by Henry Blessing.

Vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

*****MOTION to adopt the resolution to remove an old section of road to include the old bridge located at Bland Correctional Center and bring the newly constructed bridge into the Virginia Transportation System and authorize the chairman to sign was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by John Thompson.

Marty Halloway, Residency Administrator advised the board of the environmental clearance of Rt. 608; and an update on the abandonment of Eagles Road.

SOCIAL SERVICES JULY 2007, REPORT APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve the Social Services July, 2007 report in the amount of \$55,698.04 with the local of \$7,262.25 was made by John Thompson, and seconded by Henry Blessing.

Vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes; and Jason Ramsey, yes. The motion passed.

SCHOOLS OCTOBER, 2007 REQUISITION APPROVED

*****MOVE to approve and appropriate the Schools October 2007 requisition in the amount of \$750,000.00; approve the filing of the meeting minutes of August 27, 2007; and approve all check registers submitted for the month of August 2007, was made by Jason Ramsey, and seconded by John Thompson.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

BLUE RIDGE APPRAISAL MASS APPRAISALS, INC. PRESENTATION

Matt Hickey, representative of Blue Ridge Appraisal, Inc. advised the board of the status and progress being conducted on the county's reassessment. Mr. Hickey noted that notices will be sent to landowners in December 2007.

TREASURER REPORTS

Joann Shewey, Treasurer reported on office activities and advised the 2007 tax tickets to be mailed within the next couple weeks.

COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE

Cindy Wright, Commissioner of Revenue reported tax books have been printed, showing that the public service figures are lower than projected.

E-911 EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

Willie Howlett, Coordinator, presented the September 2007 E-911 monthly report of activities.

*****MOTION to ratify the resolution declaring a local emergency on September 6, 2007, due to the water leakage at the East River Mtn. Tunnel was made by John Thompson and seconded by Jason Ramsey.

The vote on this motion was as follows: Karen Hodock, yes; Jason Ramsey, yes; Henry Blessing, yes; John Thompson, yes. The motion passed.

PARKS AND RECREATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Randy Moler, representative appeared with an update on the parks and recreational committee activities.

*****MOTION to approve the purchase of mulch for the Ceres and Mechanicsburg community parks, to be purchased during the winter months, to purchase two trash containers for the Crab Orchard park, one for the Hollybrook Park and one for Mechanicsburg, and approve to erect a 24x30 picnic shelter at the Hollybrook Community Park costing \$4,500.00 for materials, with labor being free, and approve an additional \$1,000.00 to be spent in the spring for a concrete flooring, cost of all items are included within the 07-08 budget, was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by Henry Blessing.

BLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Steve Hermansen, spokesperson, appeared before the board to report on activities of the Bland County Historical Society and The Round Mountain.

E-911 HVAC PERMIT FEE WAIVED

*****MOTION to waive the HVAC permit fee, in the amount of \$15.26, for the unit installed in the county's E-911 center was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by John Thompson.

Vote on the motion was as follows: Jason Ramsey, yes; Karen Hodock, yes; John Thompson, yes; Henry Blessing, yes.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY'S BUILDING PERMIT FEE WAIVED

*****MOTION to waive the Economic Development Authority's building permit fee request in the amount of \$3,956.04, for Project Steel was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by John Thompson.

Vote on the motion was as follows: Jason Ramsey, yes; Karen Hodock, yes; John Thompson, yes; Henry Blessing, yes.

FESTIVAL OF LEAVES SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve the special entertainment permit application for the Festival of Leaves scheduled for October 13-14, 2007 was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by John Thompson.

Vote on the motion was as follows: Jason Ramsey, abstain; Karen Hodock, yes; John Thompson, yes; Henry Blessing, yes.

COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY ADDITIONAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION REQUEST TABLED

The request for an additional budget appropriation from the Commonwealth Attorney was tabled.

TOBACCO REGION OPPORTUNITY FUND GRANT APPROPRIATED TO BUDGET

*****MOTION to approve an additional appropriation to the FY 07-08 revenue and expenditure budgets in the amount of \$50,000.00, that being a Tobacco Region Opportunity Fund Grant to be

use in the funding of Project Steel, was made by John Thompson and seconded by Jason Ramsey.

Vote on the motion was as follows: Jason Ramsey, yes; Karen Hodock, yes; John Thompson, yes; Henry Blessing, yes.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT RESOLUTION APPROVED - SHERIFF VEHICLE GRANT

*****MOTION to approve the Rural Development Resolution for a sheriff vehicle grant was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by John Thompson.

Vote on the motion was as follows: Jason Ramsey, abstain; Karen Hodock, yes; John Thompson, yes; Henry Blessing, yes.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION TO FY 07-08 – SAFE & STABLE FAMILIES MONIES

*****MOTION to approve an additional budget appropriation for the SAFE & Stable Families program by moving the funds from the DSS parenting program to Project CADDY. The \$18,616.00 will be deferred from DSS's budget. The required 5.5% match, equates to \$1,025.00, at which staff would direct the board on where the funds would come from. This program would be implemented by Mt. Rogers. Motion made by John Thompson and seconded by Jason Ramsey.

Vote on the motion was as follows: Jason Ramsey, abstain; Karen Hodock, yes; John Thompson, yes; Henry Blessing, yes.

NACO DRUG CARD UPDATE

The County Administrator provided an update on the usage and savings to county residents utilizing the NACo Prescription Drug Card.

DILLOW PROCLAMATION

Chris Dillow, Bland native, was recognized for his athletic achievement to compete within the Professional Golf Association (PGA) by way of proclamation adopted by the board upon the motion of John Thompson and seconded by Jason Ramsey.

Vote on the motion was as follows: Jason Ramsey, yes; Karen Hodock, yes; John Thompson, yes; Henry Blessing, yes

COUNTY'S PERSONNEL POLICY CHANGES PROPOSED

The proposed changes to the County's Personnel Policy were discussed briefly. Supervisor Mr. Thompson requested each employee be notified of the proposed policy changes for review and/or comments and suggestions.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

County Attorney, Frank Slavin reported status of the current zoning violation.

APPOINTMENTS

Bland County Planning Commission

*****MOTION to appoint Melissa Babbitt to the Planning Commission for a 4- year term to expire 09-30-2011 was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by John Thompson.

Vote on the motion was as follows: Jason Ramsey, yes; Karen Hodock, yes; John Thompson, yes; Henry Blessing, yes.

LITTLE CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. TO RECEIVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUNDS

BLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT TO RECEIVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUNDS

Seddon supervisor, Mr. Thompson requested \$1,000.00 be sent to the Little Creek Fire Department and \$1,000.00 be sent to the Bland Volunteer Fire Department. The monies to be pulled from the community development funds budgeted.

Rocky Gap supervisor, Mrs. Hodock requested \$2,000.00 be sent to the Rocky Gap Fire Department. The monies to be pulled from the community development funds budgeted.

Sharon supervisor, Mr. Blessing commended the service authority personnel on the extra work performed at the East River Mtn Tunnel regarding the water leak.

VOTING PRECINCT POLLING PLACE CHANGES- PUBLIC HEARING OPENED

Chairman Karen Hodock opened the public hearing to receive public comment on the proposed Voting Precinct Ordinance amendment to relocate the Rocky Gap precinct polling place to the Rocky Gap United Methodist Church and the Seddon precinct polling place to the Lutheran Presbyterian Fellowship Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

Chairman Mrs. Hodock closed the public hearing.

VOTING PRECINCT ORDINANCE AMENDED RELOCATING POLLING PLACES

*****MOTION that the Rocky Gap District polling place be changed from the Rocky Gap Agricultural building to the Rocky Gap United Methodist Church and the Seddon District polling place be changed from County Office Building #1, to the Lutheran Presbyterian Fellowship Hall, effective January 1, 2008 was made by John Thompson and seconded by Henry Blessing.

Vote on the motion was as follows: Jason Ramsey, yes; Karen Hodock, yes; John Thompson, yes; Henry Blessing, yes.

ABANDONMENT OF EAGLES RD – STATE RT. 628 - PUBLIC HEARING OPENED

Chairman Mrs. Hodock opened the public hearing to receive public comment on the abandonment of Eagles Road, State Rt. 628, between the Rocky Gap Elementary School and the Rocky Gap High School.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

The public hearing was closed by Mrs. Hodock.

EAGLES ROAD RESOLUTION ADOPTED

*****MOTION to adopt the Resolution closing Eagles Road, State Rt. 628 was made by Jason Ramsey and seconded by John Thompson.

Vote on the motion was as follows: Jason Ramsey, yes; Karen Hodock, yes; John Thompson, yes; Henry Blessing, yes.

MEETING ADJOURNED

This meeting was adjourned until 5:00 p.m. on October 23, 2007.

Karen H. Hodock, Chairman

Jonathan D. Sweet, County Administrator